

Vladimír Novák

Postdoctoral Researcher at Bocconi University
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Current Position

2020 - present Postdoctoral Researcher
Department of Economics and IGIER, Bocconi University in Milan,
funded by Eliana La Ferrara's ERC grant: Aspirations Social Norms and Development

Education

2015 - 2020 Ph.D. in Economics, CERGE-EI, Prague, Czech Republic
Dissertation title: "Essays on Costly Information Acquisition in Economics"
Advisor: Filip Matějka

2013 - 2015 M.A. in Economics, CERGE-EI, Prague, Czech Republic
2012 ESC Amiens, France (Visiting Mobility, fall term)

2011 - 2013 Magister studies (M.Sc. equivalent) in Economic and Financial Mathematics,
Summa Cum Laude, Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia
Advisor: Pavel Brunovský

Visiting Research stays

2017 - 2018 Columbia University in the City of New York, Department of Economics,
Cognition and Decision Lab (fall term), local supervision: Mark Dean (Columbia University)

2010 - 2011 BCAM - Basque Center for Applied Mathematics, Bilbao, Spain,
Performance evaluation and optimization of stochastic networks group,
(spring and winter term), supervision: Peter Jacko (Lancaster University)

Employment History

2018 - 2020 Junior Researcher, CERGE-EI in Prague, funded by ERC grant of Filip Matějka,
Behavioral and policy implications of rational inattention (INATTENTION)

2015 - 2018 Research assistant, "A Dynamic Economic and Monetary Union" (ADEMU) project, funded
by the EU's Horizon 2020 program, CERGE-EI, Prague, Czech Republic

2013 Economic analyst (part-time), Institute for Financial Policy, Ministry of Finance, Slovakia

Research Interests

Primary: Information Economics, Behavioral Economics, Multi-armed Bandits

Secondary: Political Economics, Application of Behavioral Models to Development Economics

Working papers

The Status Quo and Beliefs Polarization of Inattentive Agents: Theory and Experiment,
with Andrei Matveenko (University of Copenhagen) and Silvio Ravaoli (Columbia University)
R&R American Economic Journal: Microeconomics

Valuing Hope: A Model of Aspirations,
with Eliana La Ferrara (Bocconi University)

Publications

A Note on Optimal Experimentation under Risk Aversion,
with Godfrey Keller (University of Oxford) and Tim Willems (IMF)
Journal of Economic Theory, 2019, 179, 476-487.

Scheduling of Multi-class Multi-server Queueing Systems with Abandonments, with Urtzi Ayesta (CNRS, Toulouse) and Peter Jacko (Lancaster University) *Journal of Scheduling*, 2017, 20(2), 129-145.

Peer-reviewed Conference Proceedings

A Nearly-optimal Index Rule for Scheduling of Users with Abandonment, with Urtzi Ayesta (CNRS, Toulouse) and Peter Jacko (Lancaster University), In INFOCOM, 2011 Proceedings IEEE (pp. 2835-2843). Shanghai: IEEE.

Book Chapters

Whittle's Indexation Approach to and Applications of Bi-objective Two-state Binary-action Markov Decision Processes, with P. Jacko, In A.B. Piunovskiy (Ed.), *Modern Trends in Controlled Stochastic Processes: Theory and Applications*, 2015, Volume II (pp. 140-151). UK: Luniver Press.

Work in Progress

Cognitive Perception and Aspiration Selection

Political Platform Building with Rationally Inattentive Voters, with Sergei Mikhalishev (CERGE-EI)

Estimating Models with Rational Inattentive Agents

Policy Studies

How should the government's crisis measures be communicated? Through frequent repetition, with Václav Korbel, Michal Šoltés, Lukáš Tóth; IDEA Anti-Covid Study # 10, April 2020, (in Czech)

Overview of foreign testing practices: economic-statistical perspective, with Jakub Steiner, Jan Kulveit, Ludmila Matysková, Ole Jann, Pavel Kocourek; IDEA Anti-Covid Study # 8, March 2020, (in Czech)

Households' attitudes to infection and to the government measures: The latest survey data, with Václav Korbel, Michal Šoltés, Lukáš Tóth; IDEA Anti-Covid Study # 7, March 2020, (in Czech)

The consumption tax as a dichotomy: Source of public budgets and instrument of harm reduction, with Michal Šoltés; IDEA Discussion paper, # 13, December 2019, (in Czech)

Grants and Awards

2019	Young Economist of the Year in the Czech Republic
2019	"Inattentive Polarization and State Pooling: An Experiment", GAUK Grant, 5.8k EUR
2016 - 2018	"Dynamics of Government Policy Changes", Charles University Grant Agency, 20k EUR
2017	Lindau Nobel Laureates Meeting Alumni
2015	1st place Research Proposal competition, CERGE-EI
2013	Annual best master thesis award, Slovenská sporiteľňa (Erste bank group)
2011	The Dean's Prize, FMFI, Comenius University in Bratislava, Slovakia
2006, 2007	Bronze medals, International Young Physicist Tournament, world round

Teaching Experience

2016	Macro Topics I (CERGE-EI second-year PhD. course, classes, evaluation: 4.78/5)
2016	Macroeconomics 3 (CERGE-EI first-year PhD. course, classes, evaluation: 4.76/5, best term score)

Invited Seminars and Conference presentations

2022: BI Norwegian Business School, Theoretical Research in Development Economics in Bologna (scheduled), 2nd Durham Economic Theory Conference (scheduled)

2021: The 6th World Congress of the Game Theory Society in Budapest, ArmEA Annual Meeting, Prague University of Economics and Business, Bocconi University in Milan

2020: 12th World Congress of The Econometric Society in Milan, University of Edinburgh, University of Bonn, Higher School of Economics in Moscow, University of Padova, SEAM 2020 in Bratislava

2019: Young Economists' Meeting in Brno

2018: Workshop on Multi-Armed Bandits and Learning Algorithms in Rotterdam;

Slovak Economic Association Meeting in Bratislava
2017: Slovak Economic Association Meeting in Košice;
Cognitive and Decision Group Lab Meeting at Columbia University
2016: Czech Economic Society Meeting in Prague; Multi-armed Bandit Workshop in Lancaster
2012: INRIA Lille
2011: IEEE INFOCOM 2011 in Shanghai; Student Research Conference in Bratislava

Summer Schools and Special Events

2019: Sloan-Nomis Summer School on the Cognitive Foundations of Economic Behavior in Vitznau, Switzerland
2017: 6th Lindau Nobel Laureate Meeting on Economic Sciences;
Econometric Society Summer School in Seoul, South Korea
2016: Applied Bayesian Statistics School 2016 in Como, Italy;
Behavioral Operational Research Summer School in Helsinki, Finland

Refereeing

Journals: Management Science, Journal of Economic Theory, Journal of Economic Behavior and Organization, Economics Letters

Review of Grants: National Science Center, Poland

Personal

Date of birth: December 13th, 1988
Nationality: Slovak Republic
Languages: Slovak (native), Czech (fluent), English (fluent), German (basics)
Software knowledge: Matlab, R, Mathematica, Stata, TeX

References

Eliana La Ferrara

Full Professor, Invernizzi Chair in Development Economics at Bocconi University,
and Scientific Director of the Laboratory for Effective Anti-poverty Programs (LEAP),
eliana.laferrara@unibocconi.it

Filip Matějka

Associate Professor with Tenure at CERGE-EI,
and Research Fellow of Center for Economic and Policy Research,
filip.matejka@cerge-ei.cz

Mark Dean

Associate Professor with Tenure at Columbia University in the City of New York,
mark.dean@columbia.edu

Jan Zápal

Associate Professor with Tenure at CERGE-EI, Research Affiliate at IAE-CSIC,
and Affiliated Professor of Barcelona GSE,
jan.zapal@cerge-ei.cz